

The
Gary Interstate

Established Sept. 6, 1878; the only newspaper in the world solely interested in the welfare of Gary, SD and vicinity.

Owned and Published

By The

GARY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

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“The opinions in this paper do not necessarily reflect the views of the Gary Historical Association.”



HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE GARY INTERSTATE.

By Connie Severson keys02@frontiernet.net

We had a great surprise in April!!! We thought with all kinds of plants coming out of the ground and letting us know that spring is here, Mother Nature stepped in and surprised us with a big blast of winter again.

The plants survived from the freezing weather and we are thankful. I do believe spring is here to stay, with temperatures predicted to get in the 70 and 80's this week.

The tulips, daffodils, jonquils, etc. are showing their beautiful colors.

The excitement of spring puts smiles on people's faces that makes us think of all the exciting things that are already scheduled for the summer.

With the up-coming 135th anniversary of the town of Gary and the 40th anniversary of the Gary Historical Association, I have been hearing already that many families are planning reunions and to take in the celebrations which will be held, June 30th, July 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Ms. Tootsie Contest

On April 21, 2007 the 135th Committee held another kick off event for the 135th Celebration. Six contestants appeared in the Ms. Tootsie Contest. The winners were Queen Tootsie (Lila) Chad Giese; Second place was Big Bertha – Will Stone; and third was Michelle – Mike Baer. We would like to thank all the Tootsies that participated. Also thank you to Marty Grabow for being the M.C. and to Jessie Grabow for her singing. We also held a mock wedding and bake sale. Also a thank you to all who helped make the contest a big success.



King and Queen

After an “AGING INVESTIGATION” it has been determined that the oldest man in the community to be our king will be **Pete Hults**. **Lorraine Miller** will be our queen. Our king and queen are both 89 years old. Honorable mention will go out to **Geraldine Hubbs** who is 93 but felt she should decline the honor.

LET'S PLAY BALL

By Connie Severson

Spring is a time for many things but to the guys that played ball last year, they are already anticipating all the signs of spring. In fact, Thursday, April 15, 1948, with the men beginning with a preliminary workout of baseball, it will no doubt be the topic of the next several months.

The annual pre-season classic with the Porter, Minnesota team was played on the Gary diamond.

The opening game created a lot of keen rivalry as they were tied for the past two pre-season games.

Earl Thorson who had pitched for the Gary team last year was hired this year to pitch for the Porter team.

Lots of discussion was held about that. It was perfectly legal and permissible in the Minnesota League but not in the Amateur League of which Gary was a member.

Hank Sarkis, will again be the umpire for the season.

Managers, Sheehan and Stoltenburg of the Gary team informed the players of their positions for the year.

Pitchers are, Harry Jacobson and Marvin Stratton as pitchers. On the roster are: Bob Taylor, Roy Gilbertson, Harry Olsen, Eldon Stone, Billy Stone, Ed and Ray Dougherty, Howard Stuerman, Francis Potthoff, Elmer Stoltenburg, Gyp Cole, Clifford Carlson, Walt Hanson, Clayton Ness, Erwin Baer, Buck Stangeland, Alan Lovaas and George Lohr.

The Gary Nine played Porter and defeated them, two to one. The game of course was attended by hundreds of spectators.

Gary's Howard Stuerman hit the first home run on the home field up on the hill but Gary did its scoring in the last of the 4th when Stone walked, followed by a single by Gilbertson and a walk by Ed Dougherty.

Harry Olsen stepped up to the plate with the bases loaded and drove a long double over the left fielders head to score Stone and Gilbertson.

Porter scored in the 1st of the 5th when Earl Thorson was walked and DeVoss hit a triple to bring him in.

Carlson for Gary made several good catches. The Gary team seems to have greatly improved since last year!! The Porter Batteries were: Thorson, Echart, Nomeland, Reynolds, Kamrath and Pesek. The umpires were: Sakis and Miller.

Gary goes on to defeat Antelope Valley on the home diamond before a large crowd. Billy Stone went into the box for Gary for the ninth and performed commendably, striking out the first two and getting the third out with a short fly. Magadanz clouted a home run for Antelope Valley. The Goos boys did the pitching for Antelope Valley. The final score, Gary 30, Antelope Valley, 7.

On May 6th, Gary defeated Goodwin 4 to 0. Marvin Stratton, Gary's pitcher and fielder, in the last three games he has played this season, now holds a 1,000 percent batting average. In the 11 consecutive times at bat, he has obtained 11 hits.

(Name change) The Gary Indees defeated Strandburg on the Legion field, 7 to 5 for Gary.

The Gary Indees ran away with Clear Lake. They met the friendly rivals from the county seat. The games have been proven to be exciting and no doubt a large contingent of loyal Gary fans are always on hand for the games.

June third, the Gary Indees again defeated Clear Lake, 25 to 4.

Improvements at the Gary ball diamond this year was the erection of a pop stand below the grandstand and an addition to the bleachers due to the growth of the baseball crowd.

It was announced that all league games at the various diamonds will be 50 cents which includes federal and state taxes totaling 22 percent.

Antelope Valley also made improvements this year. They moved their diamond from the former field northward to highway 212 intersection, placing the diamond across the road east of the Kruse Station.

The season year of baseball for the Gary Nine Indees proved to be a very successful banner year.

More time to play ball again in the next issue.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of you that are stepping up to help with the celebration. We need a lot of volunteers to accomplish all of the events that we will be providing for the entertainment for the celebration. We would also like all of you to participate in the events to make it a lot more fun and interesting.

If you would like to help or participate with any of the events please contact Will Stone at 272-5608 or stohill@itctel.com ; or Amy Grabow at 507-530-5921 or ajgrabow@jacks.sdstate.edu ; or Roger Baer at 272-2207 or rstaer@itctel.com

**A few thoughts from
Memories of the Heart
By Betty Schafer McCormick**

I am still taking walks. This time it is late spring as I start out on a walk. Mom has recommended this walk to check on friends and see how they are doing.

As usual, I acknowledge Selma Tietjen, stop at the creek, but this time take a left turn. I will check on Mrs. Steffrud and see how she is. Such a kind lady, always welcomes me into her home. We may share coffee, otherwise; I just check in to see if she is doing well or if she needs anything from the store. I may see Mrs. Gyp Cole outside. She and her husband have the most beautiful yard. The creek flows in their front yard and they have worked so hard to landscape and make their yard a real focal point for our city.

I will cross the street and check on Hattie Mckie. She has returned from spending the winter months with her son and family. I dearly love this woman. She cooks wonderful dishes, uses exotic foods and spices and plays the piano. Hattie's house is filled with memorabilia. She knows a lot about so many subjects. She is awe inspiring. I also love her hats. Sometimes, I will run errands for her. Her legs are not as good as they once were, so I can make a trip uptown pretty quickly.

I go out her back door over to my Uncle and Aunt's home, Henry and Neva. I am always most welcomed. Sometimes, Cousin Fred Hunt is home and we all share good conversation. Uncle Hank will play piano for me. I love it! Honky Tonk style. A kids dream. Aunt Neva keeps a very clean home. We go into the kitchen, I can still see it, lovely white tablecloth, cups, saucers, coffee, a plate of cookies and we enjoy one another's company. I can never stay long. I have to get home to Mom. I may see Mrs. Spanton, Mrs. Rowland, Mrs. Hinsvark, Mr. and Mrs. Kelsey as I stroll down the sidewalk. I may see Mr. and Mrs. Knopp across the street. Very friendly folks. Alice was a teacher and in the summers she did lots of gardening.

Also, on the same side of the street is Dr. Pinard's house, always well kept. I loved his Jeep, always thought I would like to drive a vehicle like that, but never have. Dr. Pinard was where we went for our vaccinations. I remember Dad had me lined up early for my polio shot when it became available. My brother, Henry passed away from complications of polio in 1950. Dr. was an avid hunter. I just remember his wife as being a beautiful, older lady. As a child, I thought she looked like a movie star. I don't even remember her name, just that I thought she was a kind, beautiful woman, and very smart.

I start home pass the Gilbertson home, the red brick home. We used that as a landmark when directing people where to turn if they were new to Gary. Mrs. Gilbertson was always so nice, worked in the bank, and later became Mrs. Jesme.

I may see Mrs. Marsh out today. She would leave her doors open, with just the screen door so sometimes I would see her inside and yell out "hello".

Across the street, is the Lorenzen home, lots of fun going on outside as it is a large family. Dennis was my classmate and we all would play ball in the vacant lot by their house. Lots of kids played ball in their free time. Great memories. Mike Gilbertson was probably the star athlete.

Also, Mrs. Denekamp will have had her laundry hanging out. I think she hung clothes out about six in the morning. A most energetic woman. Her son, Jerry, also a classmate, a most kind individual. Sometimes, we would walk to and from school together.

I cross the creek again, take a quick look at the fish and squalls of bugs in the water. Yell out hello to the Battles and Mr. Stellmacher if he is out today. Wave again to Selma, and I am home.

Report in to Mom on all her friends and give her news they may have passed her way. As you can see through these memories, I was so blessed to have these people, young and old, be a part of my life. I hope all teenagers have such role models and mentors. I don't believe any of them were wealthy, famous, or of royalty, but they were my friends and to me they were rich, famous and royal.

Be informed of what is going on in your town!

Meetings in May:

135th Planning Meeting, May 1, 7:00 P.M. at the Fire Hall

Gary Historical Association, May 3, 7:00 P.M. at the Fire Hall

Gary City Council Meeting May 7, 7:30 P.M. at City Hall

Gate City Economic Development, May 22, 6:00 P.M. at the Alibi

Community Club, May 24, 6:30 P.M. at the East softball field, set up for Memorial Day tournaments

Buy a Poppy

In Flanders's Field the crosses stand
In silence to our dead,
Who fought to save our country's name?
And to the victories lead

The poppies bloom in beauty there
In all their green and red,
And seem to offer up a prayer
To the loved ones of the dead.

They gave their lives that we might live
In peace and quiet, here,
The boys who left their home and friends;
The ones we held most dear.

So when they ask you for a dime
To buy a flower or two,
Think of the boys who make them
And cannot work like others do.

So buy a poppy, won't you please
And wear it with much pride,
And think of our men now living
And our soldiers who have died.

-Mrs. Marietta Thomas

An ad for Indian Cures from a Gary Interstate May 1897

The Honorable William F. Cody

If there is a man in America today whose opinion of that which has to do with the Indians and their habits is of value, it is that of the Hon. Wm. F. Cody (Buffalo Bill). The years of his life spent with them as a government scout and his later life of success combined with the respect and admiration felt for him by the entire world, make his words an unquestionable authority on any thing to do with this subject.

When such a man as this, in times of sickness reports to the medicines and obtains relief by their use, that are of nature's own brewing, made by nature's own children-the barks and herbs, as they themselves gather them, it would seem that the example he thus gives to the world should be followed and profited by.

Note what he says in his own words concerning the wonderful results to be obtained by the famous Kickapoo Indian Sagwa, I had occasion to use Kickapoo Indian Sagwa for malaria and chills with the best of results. It is far superior to quinine. I have also used Sagwa and Kickapoo Indian Oil for rheumatism and was speedily cured. You may use my name and say that what for they claim to do the Kickapoo Indian remedies have no equal. Sufferers from these troubles, or in fact from any derangement caused by a disordered condition of the kidneys, liver, stomach or blood, follow this illustrious man's example, get well by a sure method. Where a cure is possible, a cure is certain and that too without danger as these medicines contain no mineral or other poisonous ingredients. All druggists sell them. Kickapoo Indian Sagwa \$1 a bottle, 6 bottles for \$5, Kickapoo Indian Oil, 25 cents, Salve, 25 cents, Worm Killer, 25 cents, Cough Cure, 50 cents, and Pills, 25 cents.

THANK YOU!!

I would like to say **thank you** to all that have given to the tin ceiling and the band shell projects so far. We are very fortunate to have citizens in our community, alumni and members that are so willing to help preserve the history of this town. I hope that you will be pleased when you see the results of our efforts when we get these projects finished. We can still use another **\$900** in donations for these projects. We are about 90% of the way to our goal. Please help us if you can. Your donation is tax deductible and we will give you a receipt for your donation. **Would you like to have your name on the plaque?** Remember that just \$100 will get you or your family name on that plaque. If you split that up among a few children you will have your name on the plaque.

Roger Baer

President, Gary Historical Association

If you would like your family history on the web site, just email the information to us. rstbaer@itctel.com

Down Memory Lane, by Bernice Jensen



Dear Friends,

It is the spring. May, Mother's Day and Decoration Day were important days of my early childhood. 1934 to 1938 are the years that memories stand out in my mind. Henry and I would clean up the flower containers that were usually tall cans that were painted with left over paint. We could not afford green house flowers. The family and friends from the Cities and Sioux Falls brought lovely bouquets. I don't remember any artificial flowers.

The night before we would visit the cemetery with bouquets of lilacs, iris, lilies, bridal wreath from the farm, yellow roses, and wild flowers from the ditch and pasture. We had butter cups, sweet Williams and several others that I never knew the names of. They were so fragrant. Six year old Henry said, "Why do we have to pick all these flowers? They can't see or smell them!" I said that Mom told me it is for respect to the dead showing that we have not forgotten them. Then he wanted to know what respect? Ask Ma!! At that time we had no close family in the cemetery. It was Mother's Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, and cousins and elderly friends that had passed on. My father's family was buried at Monroe and Parker, SD. We would take over cans and put a weight in them and then water and put the flowers in. Through my seven year old eyes, I thought they were so beautiful and how pleased they would be if they could see them.

The cemetery had many visitors and as they met there, there was good conversation and it all seemed so peaceful. We would return home and enjoy a good supper. Dad and Mom would visit the graves remembering the different things they always talked about, the Thompson and Crocker girls that drowned in a flash flood.

The next morning we would attend the Decoration Day service at the State School for the Blind Auditorium. I don't remember much about the service, but I do remember the well-dressed ladies in spring dresses and big hats. Lucy Snyder always looked so just right. The street was lined with shiny cars. I remember Julius Jessen drove and parked on the west side of the street with a big new car, Maroon with a lot of chrome. Mother always purchased an organdy dress for me, a different color every year, in pastels, yellow, blue, pink and lavender. I looked like a big marshmallow. As I grew older, I said that's it, no more of those dresses.

After the ceremony a program was held at the cemetery. I can still see the lady singing at the Decoration service, which is now the Memorial Day service. There stood Lucy Snyder trying to hold on to her hat with both hands as the wind was blowing so hard. A gentleman got his toupee caught in a tree branch and I could not believe how a man could lose his hair in a tree branch. I thought he was scalped! Taps was played and the Gary band played so beautifully. Then one more visit to loved ones graves and then I always felt a let down as a very special day spent visiting our departed loved ones was over.

Years later the day was called Memorial Day and always falls on the last Monday of the month of May. Many graves have been added and several wars have been fought and we are at war now. A Memorial Monument has been placed to honor our armed forces that gave their time and some gave their lives. There is a cross for every war. These men and women made sacrifices so that we can live in a free country. If possible, visit their graves on this Memorial Day.

Come along down Memory Lane and we will have a great time.

News from a May 21, 1897 issue of the Gary Interstate

A free lunch was given in Mrs. Bartel's new store Saturday. She has a tasty display of goods and her customers find it a pleasant place to trade.

A horse attached to a cart with a can of skim milk in it, ran away from the creamery Monday, but was caught before any serious damage was done.

S.N. Gray's daughter Mrs. Miller of Aberdeen is visiting her parents this week. Monday L.L. Greeley took her to Dawson, Mn. and returned on Wednesday.

W.F. Gordon went to Clear Lake to meet with the county commissioner. He returned Wednesday after a session of three days.

Mrs. J. E. Gordon and baby are away visiting at the paternal home near Clear Lake, and in consequence Jess is lonesome.

Captain Herrick is improving his hotel by the addition of a nice porch. Let the idea of such improvement spread until this community shall present quite a prosperous appearance.

GARY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter from the President

Well, we are only 45 days away from the day that we need to have everything done for the city's 135th celebration and our 40th anniversary. The push is on with a lot more urgency to get all of the things done that we have planned to do.

Hopefully in two weeks the new roof and ceiling for the jail house will be in progress. Then the new paint job and mural can be done. We will be putting new underground wiring from the school house to the museum and then also new underground wiring from the school house to the band shell building. Updated wiring will also go inside the band shell building to accommodate family entertainment that we will have in that facility. We also plan to have the two railroad buildings in town by June 15. This will be a celebration that you will not want to miss. Watch for our schedule of events as we put them out.

Pioneering in Dakota Territory Through the Indian Region

A reprint from an autobiography by John Stanley
Contributed by Diane Bartels Doyle

Only a few years before we had heard frightful stories about Indian outbreaks in Minnesota, and here we were next morning passing through that very region. The "lantern-slide" views of the massacre soon after they occurred, showing scalping and all kinds of Indian outrages upon the white settlers upon the plains helped us to visualize what these pioneers had endured, and it did not tend to calm our boyish, excited nerves. However, that first night and day's travel, probably not covering over a couple of hundred miles, took us to and through an attractive landscape. Viewed from our wide-open car door the pretty groves of trees that had been planted in spots upon the rolling land, making that part of Minnesota so inviting, helped us to anticipate what might some day be the same in that part of the west we were going to help develop. I recall thinking as we passed along through that well-developed farming country that one could hardly blame the Indians for being savagely mad when they were driven from such a fascinating region. But since then I have been fully impressed with the fact that, even though justice may not have been fully done the Indians of those days, the west would never have been developed and civilized, making splendid, prosperous homes for millions of people, had not those sturdy, struggling, pioneer settlers proceeded as they did, encouraged by the government, forcing the Indians to move on to the wilds further west, and accept allotments upon reservations, or remain where they were and join in helping improve and make habitable and profitable that inviting section of the nation.

Early History of Gary and Pioneer Men - Gary Interstate, 1958 in the 25 years ago:

We have had the idea that it would be interesting to occasionally hark back about fifty years, and mention some of the earliest residents of Gary. As we claim to be the oldest one here in point of residence, it seems moot that it is up to us to duly chronicle the names of the persons who dwelt here years ago. So, as the names of the different people occur to us, we shall endeavor to print a short history about them. We are laboring under the impression that the mention of these long gone persons would be interesting to those who come after us. So, in this case, we shall give a short account of:

Warren C. Holmes

The above named gentleman was the first station agent in Gary. When this writer landed in Gary with a carload of goods in June, 1878, Mr. Holmes met us at the station and helped very materially in unloading and getting us headed in the right direction for the home on the creek south of town. In connection with his station duties, Mr. Holmes conducted a hardware store, on the lots now occupied by the old Herrick House. Mr. Holmes was a fun-loving man, and dearly loved to play a practical joke. On one occasion, he caused to be caught, a large number of frogs and placing them in a sack, took them to the Fonger drug store and turned them loose. And the commotion those frogs made, was decidedly funny. After a long and careful search, they were finally ousted.

About the first house built in Gary, was erected by Mr. Holmes, being the building now occupied by the Robert Marvin family. Mr. Holmes passed to the Great Beyond a number of years ago.